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A COMMITTEE FOR A RESPONSIBLE FEDERAL BUDGET PROJECT  
**USBUDGETWATCH**

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INITIATIVE OF THE  
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**US Budget Watch Releases New Paper Comparing Health Care Plans  
September 28, 2009**

Today, US Budget Watch released "Comparing Health Care Plans: A Guide to Health Care Reform Proposals in the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress." The paper offers detailed summaries of the three major health care reform bills being considered in Congress, and their fiscal implications.

"There is broad agreement that reform is necessary," the report explains, "[but] there is by no means a consensus on what changes are needed. The three major goals of expanding coverage, improving quality, and reducing costs are very often in conflict. And considerable disagreements exist over the relative importance of these goals and the best ways to achieve them."

To help the public understand the current debate, the report explains the major provisions of the Senate HELP Committee bill, the Finance Committee bill, and the House Tri-Committee bill. The report focuses on the ten year costs and savings from various provisions, and the overall budgetary impact of the bills.

"The potential fiscal implications of health care reform are enormous," explained Maya MacGuineas, president of the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget, which runs the US Budget Watch project. "Done right, reform could slow the growth of health care costs and help to put Medicare and Medicaid on sustainable growth paths. Done wrong, though, it could considerably drive up entitlement costs, and advance the day of fiscal reckoning."

US Budget Watch is a project of the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget, and is funded by the Pew Economic Policy Group.

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**About U.S. Budget Watch**

US Budget Watch is a project designed to increase awareness of the important fiscal issues facing the country by tracking major policy initiatives and their fiscal effects. The project is supported by the Pew Charitable Trusts.